Submitter:	Johit Kumar
On Behalf Of:	Smoke Point Wholesale
Committee:	Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB702

Dear Member of the Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health,
My name is Johit Kumar. I own and operate Stop N Go Convenience stores across
Oregon and Smoke Point Wholesale which supplies over 200 customers state wide
with flavored tobacco products.

Today, I am expressing my strong opposition to Senate Bill 702, which seeks to ban
flavored tobacco and nicotine products in the state.
I firmly believe this policy is misguided and will not achieve its intended public health
goals, for the following reasons:
• The latest data from Oregon's Student Health Survey of 2022 shows that Oregon's
youth are 5 times more likely to use alcohol and 3 times likely to use marijuana than
smoking, which is already at historic national lows.

• Banning flavored tobacco products will not address the broader issue of youth
tobacco use when truly the problem is social sources (friends or online). Also, the
state's own health survey strongly suggests that alcohol and cannabis represent a
larger concern.

• I believe that adults should have the right to make their own informed choices
regarding tobacco. Imposing a ban on flavored tobacco products infringes upon
personal freedoms and unfairly limits options for those who are seeking alternative
products like vapor and nicotine pouches. A ban won't address the demand for these
products and will simply shift the sales of the products from the legal market to illicit
sources.

• Additionally, if the state moves forward with this ban, Oregon would lose critical
tobacco tax revenues that help fund essential healthcare programs across the state,
like the Oregon Health Plan.

• Finally, such a ban will hurt legal small businesses, like mine, by taking away a
significant portion of my product offerings.
I strongly urge you to oppose SB 702 and stand up for the rights of small businesses
and responsible adult consumers.
Thank you.